Dear Editor:

In my last report to the Standard, I stated that I was substituting the RL, 671 — Congress report — as I was disclosing request made by Hon. Sam J. Ervins, Jr., who heads the Congressional Committee.

I have been busy collecting articles and reports from other members of the tribe for information for this committee, so will again be unable to continue with my report on the P.L., 671.

I am substituting again with other articles which I believe to be of vital importance. Mrs. Curry wrote the following letter to Interior Secretary Udall, dated May 8, 1961, which is presented herewith. Mr. Udall's reply will be printed later.

Oran F. Curory

Neola, Utah
May 8, 1961

Honorable Stewart Udall
Secretary of Interior
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

First, I wish to identify myself before writing to you. I'm a member of the so called "affiliated Ute Citizens of Utah", the mixed blood group of the Uintah and Ouray Reservation in Utah, and I am also an allotted member of the Uintah Band of the Uintah and Ouray Reservation. In writing this letter I am representing many of the allotted members of the group.

In the years 1903 - 1905, the Uintah Reservation was opened for homestead entry. In 1905, we, and including the White River Band were allotted 80 acres of land to the head of each family and 40 acres to single persons. The homesteaders received 160 acres under the then existing homestead laws. The Uncompahgre Utes, our neighbors were allotted 320 acres to the head of each family and 160 acres to single tribal members. Their allotments I believe included grazing lands. In 1902 250,000 acres of grazing land was set aside on the Uintah Reservation. This land was to be additional grazing lands for those who received the smaller 80 and 40 acre allotments.

When the mixed bloods, under Public Law 671 were terminated, an immediate division of grazing ground was made, wherein the mixed blaods were to be entitled to certain grazing lands, and the full bloods to certain other lands. The question was raised by the allottees as to whether this grazing ground belonged to the mixed bloods in common, or whether this ground should belong individually to the allottees who had received the smaller allotments, and who we believe were entitled to receive additional ground as part of their allotments, and the land not owned in common by the group.

This matter has caused much confusion among the Indian people and must be settled before these lands are disposed of, or we feel that it will be necessary to have this matter determined by the courts.

We believe that the procedures under P. L., 617 should be suspended until such time as this matter is settled.

We base our argument upon the agreement entered into in 1880 between the Indians and the Government of the United States, found in 21 Statutes, 199, Chapter 223, which is quoted in Case No. 45585, in the Claims Court of the United States, and part of which says as follows:

"The White River Utes agree to and settle upon agricultural lands on the Uintah Reservation in Utah.

Allotments in severalty of said lands shall be made as follows:

To each head of a family one-quarter of a section, with an additional quantity of grazing land not exceeding one-quarter of a section.

To each single person over eighteen years of age one-eighth of a section, with an additional quantity of grazing land not exceeding one eighth of a section."

As noted above, the White River Utes were not given 160 acre allotments, but 80 acre allotments, and it is our o tion that the 250,000 ac grazing as set forth abov intended to give each indi allottee additional ground cient to make the 160 ac lotment, plus the 160 ac grazing land.

We therefore take the tion that the present di of grazing lands is illeg it does not take into cons tion the additional lands we feel are owed to the Rivers and Uintah bands provided for in the act referred to.

We would appreciate looking into this matter mediately, for unless the ent division is stopped, we be damaged and will hav seek redress against the ernment for the sale of l that rightfully belong to the dividual allottees.

Very truly yours,
Mrs. Della H. Cur

Great merit is coy, as well great price.

A wishbone is N. G. with a backbone.